ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

Thomas E. Holsten
Thomas.Holsten@aporter.com

202.942.5085 202.942.5999 Fax

555 Twelfth Street, NW Washington, DC 20004-1206

March 27, 2006

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Confirmation No. 3322

Art Unit: 1633

Examiner: J.L. Epps Ford

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/199,129 filed November 24, 1998

Inventors:

Joseph R. BYRUM et al.

Title:

Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants

Atty. Docket: 16517.140

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

- 1. Request for Oral Hearing Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences; and
- 2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

Please charge the statutory fee of \$1,000.00 for Appellants' Request for Oral Hearing to counsel's deposit account 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.140. A duplicate copy of this page is attached.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.140. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098) David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Enclosures

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re application of:

Joseph R. BYRUM et al.

Appln. No.: 09/199,129

Filed:

November 24, 1998

Conf. No.:

3322

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1633

Examiner:

J.L. Epps Ford

Atty. Docket: 16517.140

For:

Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants

Request for Oral Hearing Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Appellants hereby request an oral hearing before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in the appeal of the above-identified application.

The fee for filing this Request for Oral Hearing (37 C.F.R. §1.17(d)) is believed to be \$1,000. Authorization to charge the fee to counsel's deposit account is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098) David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Date: March 27, 2006

Correspondence Address: Lawrence M. Lavin, Jr.

Monsanto Company

800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard

Mailzone E2NA

St. Louis, Missouri 63167

Tel: (314) 694-3602 Fax: (314) 694-1671 Arnold & Porter LLP 555 Twelfth Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20004

Tel: (202) 942-5000 Fax: (202) 942-5999

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